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NOTE ON: SSCI Study Entitled "US Intelligence Analysis and the Oil Issue, 1973-1974"

1. This strikes me as a useful and interesting assessment. It seems balanced and fair minded and apparently represents a pretty extensive review of the materials.

2. The analysis points up several problems and issues which deserve attention:

- a. The heavy cost of undue stress on current intelligence.
- b. The tendency not to reach out for all sources of data and especially the failure to make good use of open materials and competitive analyses.
- c. The momentum of an accepted approach which tends to play down or ignore incompatible events.
- d. The failure to combine political and economic analysis where it is manifestly required.
- e. The costs of undue stress on output.

2. This analysis does not jointly examine one topic adequately. That is, the background and expertise of the analysts themselves. Some of the tendency criticized may result from the limitations of the analysts themselves. Were the analysts new products of current intelligence? How many have had any direct exposure to the Middle East?

3. I think Sayer and I and several others should have a discussion of some of the implications of the study.

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